



19th Annual Lahr Symposium

Native Plants: Connecting Gardens, Nature, and People

Gardening has always brought humans intimately in touch with nature’s cycles. This symposium presents design professionals and biologists who create gardens and landscapes that embrace the benefits of native plants and the return of natural ecosystems to our human-dominated spaces, and guide us away from gardening practices that seriously threaten our natural wealth.

8:30 **Registration and Early-Bird Plant Sale**

9:30 **Welcome and Introduction**
Joan Feely

9:40 **The 20th Century Native Plant Movement in America**
Cole Burrell

Learn how the origins of today’s national interest in native plants grew from the 19th Century passion for the outdoors and the invention of practical field guides; which was followed in the 20th Century with the blossoming of an environmental movement where native plants became integral to horticulture and design in America. Cole will discuss how the past suggests solutions for the 21st Century’s problems of invasive species, habitat destruction, global warming and xenophobia, continuing a third century of dedication to North America’s diverse and beautiful flora.

10:50 **Refreshment Break**

11:05 **Can Science Predict the Next Kudzu?**
Richard Mack

Richard Mack will share his insights into the biology of invasive species, and illuminate the factors that add up to the creation of ecological thugs. He will explain the essential qualities that combine to allow one immigrant species to become invasive, while the majority of immigrant species do not. Learn how the cultivation of new exotic plants buffers those new species from the natural forces that would normally limit their spread. He will also introduce a comprehensive system he has developed for a science-based national policy that will help predict the next kudzu.

12:05 **Lunch**

1:00 **Concurrent Sessions** *Select one among:*

2:10 **The Creation of Meaningful Spaces**
Edgar David

Edgar David’s landscape architecture projects create unique and memorable spaces while seizing the opportunity to protect and restore our natural ecosystems. From flying gutters and green roofs to native plants and garden sculpture, learn how David reveals and integrates a site’s inherent and unique qualities in the design process. Discover how landscapes can be wonderfully transformed while incorporating “best management practices” and innovative “green” approaches.

A. Changing the Paradigm: Ecological Design for Residential Landscapes

The design team of **Jenny Reed and Lauren Wheeler** will provide an overview of ecological landscape design basics. See how they integrate good design with specific techniques for residential-scale storm water management, native plant selection, and wildlife habitat creation appropriate for the Washington area. Learn how ecological landscapes can be successfully incorporated into urban and suburban settings.

B. Creating a Wildlife Garden in a Shrinking Forest

Environmental educator and wildlife manager **Liz McDowell** will share her experience creating a family business that evolved from a naturalist guide service to include a nursery specializing in nursery propagated, genetically-local native plants. Learn what techniques Elk Ridge NatureWorks is using to restore its severely degraded land in order to preserve and restore regional biodiversity and wildlife habitat.

C. Special Plants and Special Places: Native Azaleas in the Wild

Join **Donald W. Hyatt** for an in depth introduction to the many native azalea species and forms, that are arguably the most beautiful plants in the eastern forests. From his research and insights into their native habitats, Don will suggest the best plants to use in the garden while exploring the need for increased conservation efforts to protect these spectacular gems.

D. The Elements of Great Botanical Photographs

Jessie Harris will share her art historian’s eye for photo composition and her naturalist’s passion for capturing the essential nature of her subjects. See where her goal of photographing all the non-woody plant species in the Northeast has taken her, and how you too can capture the true nature of our wild flora in photographs.

Native Plant Sale:

Opens to the general public at 10 a.m.
Closes to all at 2 p.m.

Lunch is sponsored by
Friends of the National Arboretum

Concurrent Session Only Registration Form

Registration fee: \$15 (FONA \$12)
Mail this registration form with payment to: U.S. National Arboretum
3501 New York Ave. NE, Washington, DC 20002
Attn: Event Registration

No cancellation refunds after March 4, 2005

NAME

AFFILIATION

ADDRESS

TELEPHONE

EMAIL

- Please select one concurrent session:
- ☐ **Changing the Paradigm**
 - ☐ **Creating a Wildlife Garden in a Shrinking Forest**
 - ☐ **Special Plants and Special Places**
 - ☐ **The Elements of Great Botanical Photographs**

- Please check if you would like to receive:
- ☐ directions to the National Arboretum
 - ☐ list of local accommodations

Proceeds support the Lahr Internship in the Fern Valley Native Plant Collection

For more information visit www.usna.usda.gov or call 202-245-5898